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1. *Die Arbeiterschutzgesetzgebung in den europäischen Ländern.* By DR. J. H. VAN ZANTEN. Jena: Verlag von Gustav Fischer, 1902. 8vo, pp. xii + 338.
2. *Protokoll über die am 27. und 28. Juni 1901 abgehaltene Konferenz betreffend die Ausgestaltung der Arbeitsvermittlungstatistik.* Wien: Alfred Hölder, k. und k. Hof- und Universitäts-Buchhändler, 1901. 8vo, pp. 135.
3. *Die moderne Arbeiterbewegung in England.* By WILLIAM SANDERS. Frankfurt a. M.: Verlagsinstitut für Socialwissenschaften, Dr. Eduard Schnapper, 1901. 8vo, pp. 32.
4. *Report of the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lockouts of 1900.* Published by the Labour Department of the British Board of Trade, 1901. 8vo, pp. xciii + 120.
5. *Second Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.* Published by the Labour Department of the British Board of Trade, 1901. 8vo, pp. xi + 325.

THIS group of publications is one of the many reminders of the important place which the labor problem occupies in modern civilization and of the scientific attention which is being given to the subject. Of the European countries little Holland is one of the last to feel the need of coping with this problem, and to the better understanding of it Dr. van Zanten, who is assistant in the city bureau of statistics and secretary of the building trades' labor bureau in Amsterdam, has made the latest scientific contribution. The volume which bears his name is a German translation from the Dutch of the first part of an essay on the subject, "The Regulation of the Labor Contract in Different Countries and How it Should Be Regulated in Holland," which the author has been preparing for a prize offered by the "Society of the Province of Utrecht for the Promotion of Art and Science." This first part has already received honorable mention, and the author has been thereby induced to publish it without waiting to complete the essay. The present volume, as the title indicates, treats of European conditions exclusively; and the immediate object of the work is to present a comparative study of the labor laws of the continental countries which will serve as a guide both to those who are entrusted with the enactment of labor legislation and to those who, as employers and employees,

are intimately concerned with present labor regulations. The volume is well planned for that purpose, a chapter being devoted to each of the leading countries considered, and in each case similar subjects being treated in the same order. Thus each chapter discusses, naturally and in the order given, the following topics: persons who may not enter into a contract; persons who may enter into a contract; the terms of a labor contract relative to the length of the work-day, wages, care of the employer for the health and life of the employee, other mutual duties of the parties to the contract; time length and termination of the contract; apprenticeship; the settlement of disputes; the enforcement of labor laws and contract stipulations. In general, the author discusses such protective legislation as is meant to offset the disadvantages which the employee in relation to his employer suffers in modern industry. In addition to the eight chapters which deal with these topics there is by way of introduction an excellent historical sketch of protective legislation in the nineteenth century, and the volume closes with a general comparative summary. Another excellent feature of the book is the classified arrangement at the beginning of each chapter of the specific labor laws of the particular country under discussion and a general bibliography of the other material used. Every page discloses that thoroughness of detailed research for which continental scholars are so well known; and while Dr. van Zanten seems to have had in mind at first the preparation of a work to meet the special needs of his own country, he has turned out a volume that will be of value wherever the labor problem is seriously studied.

Another phase of the labor problem which is receiving more scientific attention in Europe than it has heretofore been given, is reflected in the conference of the officials from the various Austrian labor bureaus and agencies which was held in Vienna last year, a good account of which is given in the above-mentioned *Protokoll*. The purpose of the conference was to discuss the adoption of uniform methods of keeping labor statistics in the various institutions that have to do with that subject, and to bring such institutions into closer relationship with the bureau of labor statistics recently established in connection with the Austrian ministry of commerce. When this bureau of labor statistics was created, in 1898, it was directed, in the prosecution of its work, to seek the co-operation of the state and communal authorities, the board of trade, the workingmen's accident insurance institutions, the trade unions and other workingmen's institutions; and these various

bodies were directed to render the bureau all necessary assistance. To this end the central bureau called a conference of representatives of these bodies in 1899 and discussed with them in a tentative way the subjects considered more fully in the recent conference. Prior to this time there had been no uniform plan of registering labor statistics in those various institutions, the chief function of which is to find employment for persons out of work; and some of them had kept no records at all. Thus, while the guilds were required by the Industrial Code to keep a register of workmen members who were out of work, and of employers in need of workmen, it was found as a result of an inquiry some years ago that out of the forty-two guilds in Vienna thirty-one had kept registers, but that only eleven were able to give statistics on the work done. On the other hand, the Association for Labor Registration (*Verein für Arbeitsvermittlung*), founded in Vienna in 1885, whose special aim is to assist work-people who are not members of the guilds in finding work, has kept excellent statistical records, as have many if not most of the various other 2,800 labor agencies in the state. But there have been almost as many different methods of registration as there have been agencies; hence the present movement for uniform methods and for co-operation and closer association with the central bureau. The conference seems to have been well attended considering the newness of the movement, some sixty representatives from the leading organizations and agencies being present, and among them the minister of the interior. Dr. Victor Mataja, director of the new bureau of labor statistics, presided. The deliberations of the conference had chiefly to do with four things: (1) principles which should guide in the uniform registration and preparation of statistics for monthly reports; (2) plans for preparing uniform annual reports; (3) methods of registering the unemployed who while in search of employment receive help at the workmen's relief stations (*naturalverpflegstationen*); (4) a uniform system of registering vocations and trades. Action was taken on these points and appropriate schedules for each class of statistics were adopted, so that the monthly and annual reports from the various organizations would correspond in form with those of the central bureau. It was also recommended that the various employment agencies throughout the state constitute themselves intelligence offices for those having workmen's dwellings or workshops to rent and those desiring to rent such dwellings or shops, as is done in a number of the industrial centers of Germany.

*Die moderne Arbeiterbewegung in England* is the title of an address given by Mr. Sanders in Frankfort on the Main before the German Society for Ethical Culture. Mr. Sanders is Secretary of the Battersea Labour League, London, a member of the Fabian Society, and a lecturer on social reforms. The address is of interest as giving one the point of view of a labor leader with strong socialistic leanings. The author confines himself to a discussion of the efforts of the socialistic class of the English workingmen during the last decade to establish an independent political party. This movement he identifies with the so-called "new unionism" which began with the attempts to organize the unskilled laborers during the '80's, and which received its greatest impulse from the successful organization and strike of the London dock laborers in 1889. The successful attempts at organizing the unskilled workmen gave trade unionism a decided impetus throughout Great Britain, and a feeling of solidarity among all the working classes was aroused, with the socialistic element in the lead. Out of this feeling of solidarity grew the "Independent Labour Party," a name, by the way, which was adopted by the socialists so as not to antagonize the more conservative elements in the old trade unions. Mr. Sanders describes the active campaigns which soon followed to secure a purely labor representation in Parliament and the progress which was made in securing representation in local government boards such as the London School Board and the London County Council. As a result of such representation, these local boards, as the author points out, have brought about, in many instances, a number of innovations, such as providing dwellings for the working classes, establishing "fair wages" for laborers engaged by the local governments, and requiring all employers doing work for the local government to meet the same standards. All such results—some of which are certainly doubtful gains—the author regards as marks of great progress. Judging from the experience of the last ten years Mr. Sanders concludes that as a political organization the Independent Labour Party is not likely to be able to do more than at times to hold the balance of power, and that ultimately it will identify itself with the extreme left of the Liberal Party; and that conclusion is undoubtedly sound. Moreover, as regards the further progress of the party in local government affairs, while he considers the innovations referred to above as marks of progress, he admits the fact that where the socialists have secured complete or nearly complete control they have not exercised it for the

good of the whole community but solely in the interest of their own class. Thus in the common council of West Ham some four years ago the socialists secured a majority. They forthwith had workingmen's houses built, founded schools of technology, provided city workshops, and realized, so far as the legal restrictions would allow, every socialistic ambition. But the town soon came to grief. In consequence of the fact that these public institutions were to be established and that the workmen were to be engaged directly by the city without the intervention of private employers and under conditions that were highly favorable to the workingmen, the number of employees on the town pay-roll greatly increased. These employees were citizens of the place and their political and trade organizations controlled the majority of the town administration, who no longer represented the citizens as a whole, but worked simply to secure the interests of the socialist class. These selfish interests were pushed so far that the whole public service of West Ham was soon disorganized, its treasury emptied, and a debt incurred which is still an almost insupportable burden for the taxpayers. Because of such disastrous experiments Mr. Sanders concludes that before much further progress can be made by the socialists they must be educated ethically. In that conclusion also he is undoubtedly right; and it may be added that when the different classes of society are so transformed in character that none of them will be guilty of such selfish errors as those referred to there will be little need for a program like that of the Independent Labour Party.

*The Report of the Chief Labour Correspondent on Strikes and Lockouts* is the thirteenth annual report on the subject published by the British Board of Trade. It contains an account of each dispute for the year 1900, with detailed statements as to the locality, the number of establishments involved, the number and occupation of those thrown out of employment, the cause of the dispute, the duration of the same, and the result. The work of the boards of conciliation and arbitration and the agreements reached in settling disputes also received attention. The number of strikes and lockouts in 1900 was less than for any one of the four previous years—the period covered by the comparative table given. The number of men involved and the amount of time lost, however, were greater than in the year preceding, though not so great as in the years 1897 and 1898. As usual, most of the disputes were in regard to wages. Of the 648 which occurred during the year, 202 were settled favorably to the employees, 211 favorably to the em-

ployers, 221 were compromised, while 14 were not settled. The largest number of disputes was among the building trades; the largest number of men thrown out of employment, among the miners and quarrymen. Most of the differences were settled by negotiations between the parties directly concerned or by their representatives. Of the 648 disputes three-fourths were so arranged, and these embraced 82 per cent. of all the persons concerned. The number of disputes settled by arbitration or conciliation was somewhat less than in the previous years. It should be understood, however, that the settlement of actual strikes consumes but a small part of the time of the conciliation and arbitration agencies, most of it being given to preventing stoppages of work. Thus of all the disturbances over wages and hours of labor in 1900, 58 per cent. were settled by these or kindred agencies and strikes and lockouts prevented. The report contains complete statistical information on all the topics discussed and texts of certain agreements and awards terminating disputes.

*The Second Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics* is a continuation of a similar volume which was published in 1899. As stated in the introduction to the present number, "this series is intended to be supplementary to the statistical abstract for the principal and other foreign countries which has been compiled for many years in the commercial department, and also as companion volumes to the *Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom*." The first volume dealt with the four subjects of wages, hours of labor, trade disputes, and co-operation. In the present volume statistics on these subjects are continued, and in addition statistics are given on the subjects of conciliation and arbitration, trade unions, and workmen's insurance. The countries represented are Russia, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, the United States, and Japan. A reference list of the statistical tables which it contains and a good subject index make the *Abstract* a very useful volume.

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*Ninth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the State of Iowa, 1899-1900.* C. F. WENNERSTRUM, Commissioner. Des Moines: B. Murphy, State Printer, 1901.

THIS report of nearly 600 pages presents comparatively little information of economic value in addition to that found in the, rather